

RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

SALMON FARMING IN SCOTLAND

SUBMISSION FROM HECTOR MACLENNAN

I submit as a member of the SACS whose report is here---I am also Secretary of The West of Scotland Angling Club (1834)the second oldest in the world.

The Daft Laddie Syndrome! Many years ago (too many) I ran a cheese company---one of our best customers was a supermarket in the Scottish borders---however its manager would never order enough and stocks would run out before my salesman would call again. We solved this problem by the salesman regularly doubling the order “by mistake” and admitting to that mistake after delivery---sales were doubled but the salesman became “A daft laddie!”

I submit that the Fishery consultants and Academics are all too aware of the pollution of many kinds and wild fish mortality. Probably far more than we poor anglers. However the financial gains to consultants from an enlarging and successful fish farming over ride the many negative aspects. They play “the daft laddie”--its all to easy to claim sea lice infections “not proven”

and blind the multifarious regional bodies with science. Give it time they think and solutions will be found---an enlarged industry will have the financial muscle to solve “the negatives”--- however this head in the sand must stop as far from solving problems as an enlarged fish farming industry does not! The only cure is terrestrial production.

Hector MacLennan
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